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Information Technology and Communication Services (ITACS)

ITACS Technology News

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Monterey, California. Naval Postgraduate School



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ITACS TECH NEWS

1 DECEMBER 2014

The Fall Quarter Graduation will be held in The Barbara McNitt Ballroom in Herrmann Hall on Friday, December 19, 2014. This is due to the King Hall construction project which began last summer.

Graduation Venue Change



Due to the King Hall construction project which began last summer, the Fall Quarter Graduation will be held in The Barbara McNitt Ballroom in Herrmann Hall on Friday, December 19, 2014.

There will be two Graduation Ceremonies. General John M. Paxton, Jr, USMC will

be the guest speaker for both ceremonies. The first ceremony begins at 10:00 a.m. and the second ceremony begins at 1:00 p.m. The Participant seating for each ceremony is 750. Additional seating will be provided in the El Prado Dining Room which will serve as the Overflow/Cry Room where the ceremonies will be viewable on a large screen-display. The Graduation will also be streamed online (<http://www.nps.edu/watchlive>). This Video-Stream is available world-wide. There will be a reduced number of Del

Monte Brass band members performing due to space constraints. Del Monte Brass will perform from the Coppola.

The Winter Quarter Graduation Ceremony is expected to be held in King Hall on 27 March 2015.

All Graduation Ceremonies at the Naval Postgraduate School serve to present the formal dignity of academic traditions to faculty, staff, students, family, friends, and the community in which the university operates.

Winter Break IT Maintenance



From 19 December through 2 January, ITACS will use the winter break to conduct maintenance work which could be disruptive to the campus community. Please see the following schedule for information regarding maintenance which will impact user services:

- ♦ **High Performance Computing:** 19 December through 22 December. hamming will be off line and not accessible from Friday 19 December 4:00PM through Monday 22 December 8:00AM for software maintenance updates. During normal business hours there will be at least one person available on site and remote coverage after hours and during the holidays.
- ♦ **Technology Assistance Center (TAC):** 22 December through 2 January. The TAC will change service hours to 8:00 AM until 3:00 PM, Monday through Friday. Wednesdays the TAC will be closed to walk-in service but will take phone calls and email requests from 8:00AM to 1:00PM. The TAC will be closed Christmas and New Year's Days.
- ♦ **Computer Labs:** 22 December through 2 January. Glasgow, Ingersoll, Root, and Reed Hall Learning Resource Classrooms (LRC) and Academic Labs will be off line for short periods of time for re-imaging. The upgrade will take 1 - 4 hours for each LRC and lab. A sign will be posted on the door of the impacted LRC or lab during its re-imaging.
- ♦ **Sakai Learning Management System:** 29 December. Sakai will not be available from 9:00AM to 4:00PM so that upgrades to the system can be completed.

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Enterprise Migration Update



ITACS is completing a migration of the Enterprise virtual server farm from 17 older physical servers to 20 new physical servers. These servers are each individually more powerful, allowing for more virtual machines per server, and of course, with more servers, a 25% increase in capacity. This will allow ITACS to continue to deploy virtual servers as needed to meet the requirements of the School and the researchers supporting mission. Additionally, the old virtual farm is not going to waste - ITACS will be standing up a small virtualization environment on the Defense Education and Research Network (the .mil network), bringing the operational flexibility and resilience of virtualization to systems on the .mil.

The .mil virtualization is being performed in partnership with researchers in the Computer Science department, but everyone can benefit from the new environment. The system is expected to be online in December - contact the TAC for further information about taking advantage of this new capability.



To review your annual training requirements, please visit NPS' Online Training and Certification page at (NPS Login Required):

[https://
www.nps.edu/
technology/
webbasedtraining/](https://www.nps.edu/technology/webbasedtraining/)

Cybersecurity ~ Stay Safe On-Line During the Holidays



This Holiday Season we must all be extra vigilant on-line to be on the look-out for those who wish to take advantage of us. We are all busy at work and at home and are often distracted. Here are some tips to consider:

1. Use long complex passwords. Add a "pad" to the end of a commonly used password to make a new password unique. The pad could be the name of the company whose website you are using. For example, use "complex_password_amazon" when you use Amazon's website.

2. Know the website you are visiting by either going to it from a bookmarked address or typing it in directly. Don't click on links in emails whether or not you solicited them.

3. Use a credit card from a reputable bank. You the cardholder are normally not liable for fraudulent charges provided they are reported in a timely manner. Check with your credit card terms and conditions.

4. Before you go shopping, update your programs and security software. Consider an ad-blocking plug-in for your web browser. Those web pop-up ads are particularly obnoxious during the holiday shopping season and now you can manage them from affecting your system at home using these plug-ins.

5. Shop on secure sites only. If they don't offer https:// or re-direct you to such an address, get out of their quickly.

Enjoy the Holiday season and be safe on-line!!!

NPS' Website Upgrade Status

In the October TechNet issue, we reported that the Public Affairs Office and ITACS are teaming together to launch Liferay as our enterprise Content Management System (CMS). Much progress has been made since then. Currently, there are 12 sites that are live in Liferay and there are 22 sites in progress. Additionally, a Web Advisory Board has been formed. The Web Advisory Board will be comprised of a group of representatives throughout NPS who seek to advance the mission of the university by recommending policies, procedures, and guidelines regarding web-related issues. The Board will act as a facilitator, fostering communication, education, collaboration, and a sense of community among those involved with or interested in online communication at the Naval Postgraduate School. The Board held its first meeting on 14 November.

Next steps include continuing migration of sites and conducting usability testing. We welcome early adopters as we continue the development of and migration to the new NPS website.



CELL PHONES FOR SOLDIERS

Sponsor a heart-felt call home by donating a gently-used mobile phone

Your donation serve and support:

- * Military Bases around the world
- * All Military Branches
- * Wounded Warriors at VA Hospitals
- * Care Package Programs
- * Family Readiness Coordinators for Deployment Ceremonies

Drop Box is located outside of the TAC (IN-151)

Please remove SIM card prior to donating.

"Factory Reset" to wipe all personal information.

Batteries, chargers, and accessories are not required but will be accepted.

www.cellphonesforsoldiers.com

This Holiday Season, The Greatest Gift You Can Give is... HOPE

Please donate non-perishable food items for those in need this holiday season.

A Collection Barrel has been placed in the main lobby of Ingersoll Hall



The Food Bank for Monterey County strives to meet the need to supply emergency food on a daily basis to those less fortunate. One half of our 90,000 Monterey County neighbors benefitting from the Food Bank are children.

Please visit

<http://www.foodbankformontereycounty.org/> for details on the many other ways to give back.

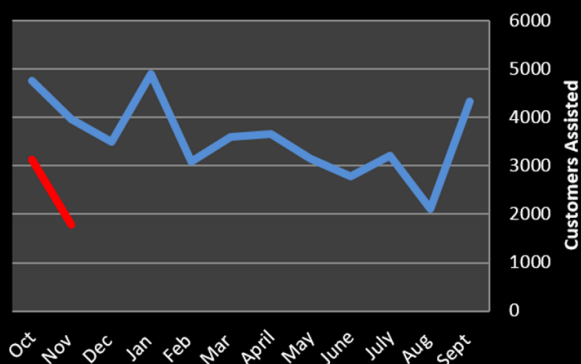
Technology Assistance Center (TAC)

TAC (aka IT Help Desk) assists NPS' students, faculty and staff with their IT needs. We are located in Ingersoll Hall (Bldg. 330) Room 151. Our normal hours of operation are Mon—Thurs 0800—1600 Fri 0800-1315 and 1445-1600. We can be reached by calling (831-656-1046), e-mailing (tac@nps.edu), or walk-in. Our Wiki page (wiki.nps.edu/TAC) has instructions and links that can be very helpful in assisting with your needs. Below are the statistical comparisons for TAC customer assistance numbers in FY15 vs FY14:

November Stats:

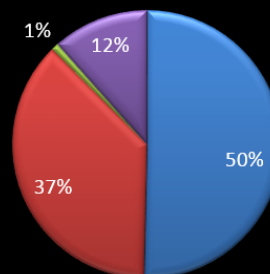
FY15 = 1,784 vs. FY14 = 3,957 -55%

TAC Statistics



■ Phone ■ E-Mail ■ Tech ■ Walk-In

Nov-14



Customer Assistance Type—TAC:

- Phone: calls made to the TAC
- Email: emails sent to the TAC for assistance
- Tech: technician dispatched to user office
- Walk-in: customer assistance in the TAC

Hamming Progress And Updates



Over the past 4 months there have been major hardware updates to the hybrid supercomputer, "Hamming". Processors have been upgraded in all the storage nodes from 8-core AMD processors to 16-core AMD processors and the memory capacity has doubled to 64 gigabytes. This improvement provides faster data throughput. To support large data transfers, a high speed data transfer node (hamdata.uc.nps.edu) has been added to Hamming. The Math Department recently purchased 5 new state-of-the-art Titan GPU (graphical processor unit) servers which are now part of the supercomputer. Each GPU node has 8 "Titan Black" GPUs with 2880 cores.

Users are invited to a weekly forum Mondays in SP-341 (Spanagel Hall Mac Lab) at 11am. Hands-on training on tips, tricks, and techniques for using Hamming, as well as a link for account creation, can be found at <http://www.nps.edu/hpc>. Come and explore this academic and research resource.

IT Scheduled Maintenance

- **Who:** NPS faculty, staff, and students utilizing the network.
- **What:** ITACS coordinates with representatives from the academic, administrative, and technical areas to plan and schedule maintenance events that affect services, which may cause services to be unavailable for up to 5 hours.
- **When:** Every Tuesday from 1730-2130.
- **Where:** Visit the NPS Intranet Home page for the latest IT maintenance announcements.
- **Unplanned Emergency:** Maintenance or special circumstances (power outages or hardware failures, for example) that require downtime are announced as necessary.

D E C E M B E R 2014	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 *1730 - 2130 Maintenance	3	4	5	6
	7	8	9 *1730 - 2130 Maintenance	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16 *1730 - 2130 Maintenance	17	18	19	20
	21	22	23 *1730 - 2130 Maintenance	24	25	26	27
	28	29	30 *1730 - 2130 Maintenance	31 Have a Happy & Safe New Year 2015		*1730 - 2130 Maintenance on System-Wide Network & Email	